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Application No. 10/709,119

Docket No.: 65833-0012

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-41 (Canceled)

42. (Currently Amended) A multiple orifice applicator for applying a fluid material to a work piece, comprising:

an applicator body having an inlet port;

a detachable applicator plate coupled to said applicator body, said applicator plate having a plurality of outlet orifices configured to dispense fluid material onto the work piece; and

at least one dispersing chamber providing a fluid flow path between said inlet port and at least two or more of said plurality of outlet orifices, wherein the cross-sectional area of said at least one dispersing chamber proximate said inlet port is smaller than the cross-sectional area of said at least one dispersing chamber proximate said outlet orifices, wherein said at least one dispersing chamber is partially disposed within said applicator plate and partially disposed in said applicator body; and

a wall in said applicator plate that separates said at least two dispersing chambers, said wall having a top end and a bottom end that is narrower than said top end, said sealing member contacting said top end of said wall and said bottom end of said wall being proximate said outlet orifices of said applicator plate.

43. (Previously Presented) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 42, wherein said applicator body includes a groove around said dispersing chamber, and further including a sealing member at least partially disposed in said groove and contacting said applicator plate.

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44. (Previously Presented) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 42, wherein said at least one dispersing chamber comprises at least two dispersing chambers.

45. (Previously presented) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 44, wherein said applicator body includes a groove between said at least two dispersing chambers, and further including a sealing member at least partially disposed in said groove and contacting said applicator plate.

46. (Canceled)

47. (Currently Amended) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 42 46, wherein said bottom end of said wall has an end tip that is narrower than a distance between said outlet orifices.

48. (Previously presented) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 44, wherein said applicator body includes a groove extending around and between said at least two dispersing chambers, and further including a sealing member at least partially disposed in said groove and contacting said applicator plate.

49. (Previously presented) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 48, wherein said sealing member is an elastomeric member.

50. (Previously presented) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 42, wherein said at least one dispersing chamber includes at least one terraced shoulder.

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51. (Currently Amended) A system for applying fluid material to a work piece, comprising:

    a source of fluid material;

    a multiple orifice applicator in fluid communication with said source of fluid material, said multiple orifice applicator comprising:

        an applicator body having an inlet port;

        a detachable applicator plate coupled to said applicator body, said applicator plate having a plurality of outlet orifices configured to dispense fluid material onto the work piece;

        at least one dispersing chamber providing a fluid flow path between said inlet port and at least two or more of said plurality of outlet orifices, wherein the cross-sectional area of said at least one dispersing chamber proximate said inlet port is smaller than the cross-sectional area of said at least one dispersing chamber proximate said outlet orifices, wherein said at least one dispersing chamber is partially disposed within said applicator plate and partially disposed in said applicator body; and

a wall in said applicator plate that separates said at least two dispersing chambers, said wall having a top end and a bottom end that is narrower than said top end, said sealing member contacting said top end of said wall and said bottom end of said wall being proximate said outlet orifices of said applicator plate; and

        a mechanism for controlling relative positioning of said multiple orifice applicator and the work piece.

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52. (New) A multiple orifice applicator for applying a fluid material to a work piece, comprising:

an applicator body having an inlet port;

a detachable applicator plate coupled to said applicator body, said applicator plate having a plurality of outlet orifices configured to dispense fluid material onto the work piece; and

at least one dispersing chamber providing a fluid flow path between said inlet port and at least two or more of said plurality of outlet orifices, wherein said at least one dispersing chamber is partially disposed within said applicator plate and partially disposed in said applicator body; and

a wall in said applicator plate that separates said at least two dispersing chambers, said wall having a top end and a bottom end that is narrower than said top end, said sealing member contacting said top end of said wall and said bottom end of said wall being proximate said outlet orifices of said applicator plate.

53. (New) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 52, wherein said applicator body includes a groove around said dispersing chamber, and further including a sealing member at least partially disposed in said groove and contacting said applicator plate.

54. (New) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 52, wherein said at least one dispersing chamber comprises at least two dispersing chambers.

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55. (New) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 54, wherein said applicator body includes a groove between said at least two dispersing chambers, and further including a sealing member at least partially disposed in said groove and contacting said applicator plate.

56. (New) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 52, wherein said bottom end of said wall has an end tip that is narrower than a distance between said outlet orifices.

57. (New) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 54, wherein said applicator body includes a groove extending around and between said at least two dispersing chambers, and further including a sealing member at least partially disposed in said groove and contacting said applicator plate.

58. (New) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 57, wherein said sealing member is an elastomeric member.

59. (New) The multiple orifice applicator of claim 52, wherein said at least one dispersing chamber includes at least one terraced shoulder.